

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 10828 271140Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 PM-05 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00  
DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 /039 W  
-----052250 272036Z /64

R 271038Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7746  
SECDEF WASHDC  
INFO HQ USAF JACI WASHDC  
NAVY JAG WASHDC  
FAA WASHDC  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI  
CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI  
CINCPACREPPH SUBIC BAY RP  
13THAF CLARK AB RP  
FAA TOKYO FIG YOKOTA AFB JA  
374TH MAW CLARK AB RP  
22ND AIR FORCE TRAVES AB CA  
HQ MAC SCOTT AB ILL

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 10828

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EAIR, RP  
SUBJECT: REQUIREMENT OF DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE FOR  
- FAA AND MAC CHARTER FLIGHTS

REF: MANILA 10733

1. SUMMARY: DURING JUNE 27 DISCUSSION WITH U.S. REPS,  
COL. HERNANDO BACKED OFF FOR PRESENTRE PROPOSED CHANGE  
TO DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE FOR FAA AND MAC FLIGHTS (REFTEL).  
WHETHER PROBLEMS WILL RESURFACE IS CONJECTURAL. END SUMMARY

2. ON JUNE 27, EMBOFFS LEE AND HITT ACCOMPANIED BY  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANILA 10828 271140Z

COL. MAYHEW, 374TH VICE COMMANDER AND LT. COL. SHACKLEFORD,  
13TH AF AIR DEFENSE UNIT COMMANDER CALLED ON COL HERNANDO,  
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, 1ST AIR DIVISION, PHILIPPINE  
AIR FORCE, TO DISCUSS MAC CHARTER AND FAA FLIGHTS.

3. HERNANDO JUSTIFIED TRANSFER OF CLEARANCE RESPONSIBILITY  
FROM PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE (PAF) TO MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS

(MFA) AS PART OF NORMALIZATION PROCESS. "MARTIAL LAW WILL SOON BE LIFTED," HE SAID "AND WE DON'T WANT TO BE CAUGHT WITH OUR PANTS DOWN." HE STRESSED THE CIVILIAN NATURE OF THE MAC AND FAA FLIGHTS WHICH NECESSITATED MFA APPROVAL, NOTING IN PASSING THAT PAF

HAD ONLY BECOME INVOLVED IN FLIGHT CLEARANCES SINCE THE IMPOSITION OF MARTIAL LAW.

4. U.S. REPS NOTED THE VIRTUALLY EXCLUSIVE CONNECTION OF BOTH TYPES OF FLIGHTS TO THE BASES, THE ADMITTEDLY (BY HERNANDO) SMOOTH WORKING OF CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS, THE HISTORIC PRACTICE OF OPERATION WITHOUT DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE, THE POOR TIMING OF THE UNILATERAL ACTION JUST AS MILITARY TO MILITARY TALKS WERE GETTING UNDER WAY, THE DIFFICULTY IN COMPLIANCE WITH HIS INSTRUCTIONS ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE, THE IMPLICIT APPROVAL OF SUCH FLIGHTS IN THE MILITARY BASES AGREEMENT, ETC.

5. HERNANDO STATED THAT THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE NEED TO CHANGE THE STATUS QUO. HE INDICATED THAT FOR THE PRESENT, WHILE THE QUESTION WAS STILL BEING STAFFED, THE US COULD CONTINUE OPERATIONS UNDER THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS. HE INDICATED BG BUENO, COMMANDER 1ST DIVISION, HAD SIGNED A HERNANDO-DRAFTED LETTER TO GEN SARMIENTO, COMMANDER, PAF PROPOSING THE CHANGE TO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MANILA 10828 271140Z

DIPLOMATIC CLEANANCE WHICH HAD NOT YET BEEN ACTED ON. WHEN U.S. REPS VOLUNTEERED TO PREPARE PAPER ON US POSITION, HERNANDO RESPONDED WITH NOTICEABLE LACK OF ENTHUSIASM WHICH, IN THE LIGHT OF PAST EXPERIENCES, RAISED SOME DOUBT AS TO WHETHER A LETTER HAS REALLY BEEN SENT TO SARMIENTO. HERNANDO ACKNOWLEDGED NEED FOR CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES, AS WELL AS NEED FOR TRANSITION TIME IN THE EVENT A CHANGE IS IN FACT EFFECTED. HE PROMISED THERE WOULD BE NO SURPRISES.

6. TOWARDS THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING, HERNANDO EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE PAL REFUELING PROBLEM AT CLARK. HE WAS ADVISED THAT THAT PROBLEM APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN SOLVED. DO NOT BELIEVE ANY CAUSAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PAL INCIDENT AND MAC/FAA PROBLEMS. MEETING ENDED ON CORDIAL NOTE AS HERNANDO ACCEPTED EMBOFFS' INVITATION TO CHINESE LUNCHEON NEXT WEEK.

7. COMMENT: THE MAC CHARTER AND FAA PROBLEMS HAVE SUBMERGED FOR THE MOMENT BUT MAY RESURFACE AT ANY TIME. WE BELIEVE THAT NO FURTHER U.S. ACTION IS NECESSARY

OR ADVISABLE FOR THE PRESENT. MURPHY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY AIRCRAFT, FLIGHT CLEARANCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978MANILA10828  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780266-0654  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MANILA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780616/aaaaanwu.tel  
**Line Count:** 117  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 111e667f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 MANILA 10733  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2195548  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REQUIREMENT OF DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE FOR - FAA AND MAC CHARTER FLIGHTS  
**TAGS:** EAIR, RP, US, FAA  
**To:** STATE DOD  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/111e667f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014